



Technical Assistance Resource: Guidance on Unit Size Change Requests Related to Disabilities / Reasonable Accommodations

A request for a unit size change is most commonly associated with an increase in the number of people in the household. If the reason for a unit size change request is related to a disability or medical necessity, then the agency should follow the legal requirements associated with reasonable accommodations requests. The Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) has published guidance covering [Reasonable Accommodations in Tenant Selection Processes](#) and [Sample Reasonable Accommodation Request Notices and Forms](#). On the topic of establishing whether a request is due to medical necessity, CSH provides the following guidance:

“If an applicant requests a reasonable accommodation or modification, a housing provider may request documentation or some proof that the applicant has a disability and the link between the disability and the requested accommodation. The housing provider may not, however, require an applicant to submit medical records as proof of his or her disability; such records are private. Instead, the housing provider should request a doctor’s letter indicating the need for the accommodation or modification, a Supplemental Security Income award letter, or some similar verification. Even when the housing provider is seeking proof of the applicant’s disability, the provider may not ask about the particular type or severity of disability or other specifics, unless the housing is designated only for a person with a particular disability, or unless the specific information relates to the provision of the requested accommodation or modification.”

Corporation for Supportive Housing (2013, August). *Reasonable Accommodations in Tenant Selection Processes*. Retrieved from https://www.csh.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/AccommScreening_T.pdf